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Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of parameter passing of data structures where an API and corresponding stored procedures are at different version/release levels, the method comprising:

receiving, from a calling program, a data structure having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of data structure element elements used for communicating data between the stored procedures and the calling program;

first parsing the data structure for a first version identifier of the data structure;

comparing the first version identifier of the data structure to a second version identifier of the stored procedures;

when said comparing of the first version identifier with the second version identifier is indicative of a data structure compatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures, second parsing all of the data structure elements of the data structure; and

when said comparing of the first version identifier with the second version identifier is indicative of a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures, third parsing only ~~the~~ data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of said calling program and said stored procedures.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said comparing is indicative of a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier is ~~missing~~ not located in the data structure by said first parsing.

*Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007*

3. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said comparing is indicative of a data structure compatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier matches the second version identifier.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said comparing is indicative of a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when at least one of:

the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier;

~~or missing the first version identifier is not located in the data structure by said~~
first parsing; and

the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein said third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of said calling program and said stored procedures includes:

third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the calling program when the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein said third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of said calling program and said stored procedures includes:

third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the stored procedures when the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

7. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the receiving includes receiving the data structure having a BLOB/CLOB pair.

*Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007*

8. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein:

the receiving the data structure having the BLOB/CLOB pair includes:

receiving a CLOB having at least one character data value; and

receiving a BLOB having a version identifier, a data element ID for each respective character data value, a data type for each respective character data value, and a data length for each respective character data value.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 8, further comprising:
obtaining version control information from a library system control table, wherein
the receiving a BLOB having a version identifier includes receiving a BLOB
having a version number and a release number a result of said comparing is
based on the version control information obtained from the library system
control table.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for passing parameters of data structures on a computer system wherein APIs and corresponding stored procedures are at different version/release levels, the system comprising:

means for receiving, from a calling program, a data structure including ~~at least one~~ a plurality of data structure element elements used for communicating data between the stored procedures and the calling program;

means for first parsing the data structure for a first version identifier of the data structure;

means for comparing the first version identifier of the data structure to a second version identifier of the stored procedures and determining one of a data structure compatibility ~~or~~ and a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures as a result of said means for comparing;

Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007

means for second parsing all of the data structure elements of the data structure when said ~~comparing~~ means for comparing determines a data structure compatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures; and

means for third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of said calling program and said stored procedures when said ~~comparing~~ means for comparing determines a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures.

11. (Currently Amended) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 10, wherein said ~~comparing~~ means for comparing determines a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier is ~~missing~~ not located in the data structure by said first parsing.

12. (Currently Amended) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 10, wherein said ~~comparing~~ means for comparing determines a data structure compatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier matches the second version identifier.

13. (Currently Amended) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 10, wherein said ~~comparing~~ means for comparing determines at least one of:

a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when i) the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier ~~or missing~~ ii) the first version identifier is not present in the data structure; and ~~a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when~~ iii) the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

*Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007*

14. (Currently Amended) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 13, wherein said ~~parsing~~ means for parsing parses only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the calling program when: the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier, ~~or missing~~ and the first version identifier is not present in the data structure.

15. (Currently Amended) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 13, wherein said ~~parsing~~ means for parsing parses only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the stored procedures when the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

16. (Original) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 10, wherein the data structure includes a BLOB/CLOB pair.

17. (Original) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 16, wherein:

the CLOB includes at least one character data value; and

the BLOB includes:

a version identifier;

a data element ID for each respective character data value;

a data type for each respective character data value; and

a data length for each respective character data value.

18. (Currently Amended) The system for passing parameters of data structures as set forth in claim 10, ~~wherein the version identifier includes~~ further comprising:

~~a version number~~ library system control table; and

~~a release number~~ means for obtaining version control information from the library system control table, wherein said determining one of a data structure

*Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007*

compatibility and a data structure incompatibility is based on the version control information obtained from the library system control table.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in said computer usable medium for use in passing parameters of data structures on a computer system wherein APIs and corresponding stored procedures are at different version/release levels, comprising:

program code for receiving, from a calling program, a data structure including at ~~least one~~ a plurality of data structure element ~~elements~~ used for communicating data between the stored procedures and the calling program;

program code for first parsing the data structure for a first version identifier of the data structure;

program code for comparing the first version identifier of the data structure to a second version identifier of the stored procedures and determining a one of a data structure compatibility ~~or~~ and a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures as a result of said program code for comparing;

program code for second parsing all of the data structure elements of the data structure when said ~~comparing~~ program code for comparing determines a data structure compatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures; and

program code for third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of said calling program and said stored procedures when said comparing program code for comparing determines a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures.

*Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007*

20. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said ~~comparing~~ program code for comparing determines a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier is ~~missing~~ not located in the data structure by said first parsing.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said ~~comparing~~ program code for comparing determines a data structure compatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier matches the second version identifier.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said ~~comparing~~ program code for comparing determines at least one of:

a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when a one of the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier ~~or missing~~ and the first version identifier is not present in the data structure; and

a data structure incompatibility between said calling program and said stored procedures when the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as set forth in claim 22, wherein said ~~parsing~~ program code for third parsing parses only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the calling program when the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier or ~~missing~~ the first version identifier is not present in the data structure.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as set forth in claim 22, wherein said ~~parsing~~ program code for third parsing parses only the data structure

*Application No. 10/759,661
Amendment dated August 16, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2007*

elements of the data structure that are known to the stored procedures when the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

25. (Original) The computer program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein the data structure includes a BLOB/CLOB pair.

26. (Original) The computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein:
the CLOB includes at least one character data value; and
the BLOB includes:

- a version identifier;
- a data element ID for each respective character data value;
- a data type for each respective character data value; and
- a data length for each respective character data value.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as set forth in claim 19, ~~wherein the version identifier includes~~ further comprising:

- ~~a version number~~ library system control table; and
- ~~a release number~~ program code for obtaining version control information from the library system control table, wherein said determining one of a data structure compatibility or a data structure incompatibility is based on the version control information obtained from the library system control table.